JUDICIAL MERIT SELECTION COMMISSION PERSONAL DATA QUESTIONNAIRE

Court, Position, and Seat # for which you are applying: Sixteenth Circuit Family Court, Judge York County Seat #2

1. NAME:

Mr. Tony M. Jones

HOME ADDRESS:

2022 Surrey Lane

Rock Hill, SC 29732

BUSINESS ADDRESS:

P.O. Box 994

Rock Hill, SC 29731

(220 E. Black Street, Rock Hill, SC 29730)

TELEPHONE NUMBER:

(office): 803-328-8044

2. Date of Birth:

1958

Place of Birth:

York County

3. Are you a citizen of South Carolina? Yes.

Have you been a resident of this state for at least the immediate past five years? Yes.

- 5. Family Status: Single, never divorced, no children.
- 6. Have you served in the military? None.
- 7. List each college and law school you attended, including the dates of your attendance, the degrees you received, and if you left an institution without receiving a degree, the reason for your departure.
 - (a) Appalachain State University, 1976-80 B.A. Communications;
 - (b) Cumberland School of Law, 1980–83, Juris Doctorate.
- 8. List the states in which you have been admitted to practice law and the year of each admission. Also list any states in which you took the bar exam but were never admitted to the practice of law. If you took the bar exam more than once in any of the states listed, please indicate the number of times you took the exam in each state.
 - South Carolina 1983. Passed Bar first time taken.
- 9. List the significant activities in which you took part during your attendance at college, graduate, and law school. Give the dates you were involved in these activities and list any leadership positions you held.
 - (a) In college, I participated on the Appalachain State University Forensic Team for the four years I attended;
 - (b) In 1978 at the PI Kappa Delta National Forensic Tournament, I won a gold medal for excellence in persuasive speaking;
 - (c) In law school, I participated in the Client Counseling Competition in 1982 and 1983 and won first place both years.
- Describe your continuing legal or judicial education during the past five years. Include only the title and date of any continuing legal or judicial education course completed.

Conference/CLE Name		Date(s)
(a)	Revised Lawyer's Oath CLE	9/14/2004
(b)	Ethics Seminar	9/14/2004
(c)	Masters in Trial	11/12/2004
(d)	Updating your Adv. Skills	12/10/2004
(e)	Family Law Seminar	6/24/2005
(f)	York County Bar. Assn: 2005	9/20/2005
(g)	Hot Tips from the Coolest	9/23/2005
(h)	SC Family Court Bench/Bar	12/2/2005
(i)	Recent Developments in Ethics	9/13/2006
(j)	Hot Tips from the Coolest Domestic Law Pract.	9/22/2006
(k)	Family Court Bench/Bar	12/1/2006
(1)	Advanced Cross Examinations	12/15/2006
(m)	Hot Tips from the Coolest Domestic Law Pract.	9/21/2007
(n)	What's New in the World of	10/30/2007
(o)	Family Court Bench/Bar	12/7/2007
(p)	Hot Tips from the Coolest Domestic Law Pract.	9/18/2008
(q)	2008 SC Family Court Bench/Bar	12/5/2008
(r)	Federal & State Securities Enforcement	12/9/2008

- 11. Have you taught law-related courses or lectured at bar association conferences, educational institutions, or continuing legal or judicial education programs? If so, briefly describe each course or lecture.
 - (a) I have lectured at the SC Bar Program "Bridge the Gap" for new lawyers;
 - (b) I have made presentations on the topics of appellate advocacy and domestic relations to lawyers attending the Annual SC Bar Meeting
- 12. List all published books and articles you have written and give citations and the dates of publication for each.
 - (a) <u>S.C. Appellate Practice Handbook</u> (S.C. Bar CLE 1985), Contributing Author;
 - (b) Marital Litigation in S.C., Roy T. Stuckey and F. Glenn Smith (S.C. Bar CLE 1997), Editorial Board.
- 13. List all courts in which you have been admitted to practice and list the dates of your admission. Give the same information for administrative bodies that require a special admission to practice.
 - (a) Admitted to practice before the State Courts of South Carolina in 1983;
 - (b) Also admitted to practice before the Federal District Court of South Carolina in 1984.
- 14. Describe chronologically your legal experience since graduation from law school and include a list of all law firms with which you have been associated. Describe the general character of your practice and divide it into periods with dates if its character has changed over the years.

Upon graduation from law school in 1983, I was employed by Luther C. Elrod, III, a sole practitioner. Mr. Elrod practiced primarily in the area of

workman's compensation and civil litigation and I was hired to expand the scope of the practice. Within several years, I was made a partner and the name of the law firm changed to Elrod and Jones. In 1989, Jack G. Leader joined the firm and the name of the firm was changed to Elrod, Jones and Leader. In 1990 or 1991, David Benson joined the firm and the firm shortly thereafter become known as Elrod, Jones, Leader and Benson. In 2001, Harold C. Staley, Jr. was hired as an associate. In 2006, I left the firm and become a solo practitioner.

Upon passing the Bar, my practice focused on family law, social security, civil litigation and, to a lesser extent, criminal law. Within a few years, the domestic practice began to grow and slowly other areas were eliminated. By 1988, I was practicing family law and social security disability law exclusively. Family law made up 80% to 85% of my practice at that time. In the early 1990's, Jack Leader began handling all of the social security for our firm and I began handling Family Court law exclusively.

I have an extensive amount of experience in the areas of divorce, equitable division of property, alimony, child custody, abuse and neglect and, to a lesser extent, adoption and juvenile justice. For the past four years, I have averaged almost two hundred Court appearances per year in Family Court. In my career, I have handled almost two thousand domestic cases. I have been involved in extremely contested cases involving fault grounds of divorce.

Quite a number of my cases concern equitable division of property. I have extensive experience in handling cases where I have to deal with the character of property, whether it be marital or non-marital, and whether or not transmutation had taken place was the central issue. I have been involved in cases where I have had to go through a great deal of discovery to uncover hidden assets and utilize the services of expert witnesses to pour over tax returns and financial records to locate assets that were not identified by the adverse party.

I have tried a number of cases involving alimony. As alimony is within the sound discretion of the Trial Court, it can be a complicated matter. I tried the case of Croom, 305 S.C. 158 (Ct. App. 1991) where we sought to terminate alimony based upon post divorce misconduct. While the relief we sought was denied by the Court of Appeals, the case itself was a factor in the Legislature enacting Section 20-3-150, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976 as amended.

I have been involved in quite a number of child custody cases. A number of domestic cases will start out with child custody as an issue, but frequently settle once a Guardian ad Litem becomes involved and, in particular, if psychological evaluations are performed. However, there are times when those cases do not settle and I have a considerable amount of experience in hotly contested child custody cases. I tried the case of Lee v. Lee in 1991 against Jim McLaren and Brooks Goldsmith for five days. The case involved

psychologist, psychological evaluations, etc. The case did not involve any equitable division of property, but rather, only child custody.

I have handled a great deal of abuse and neglect cases, whether being retained or appointed. I have also assisted other lawyers who were not experienced in the area of Family Court who have been appointed to complicated abuse and neglect cases. It seems I always have several of these cases going on and, given the fact that I am on the appointment list, a steady stream of them come into my office.

My experience in adoption and juvenile justice is not quite as extensive as other areas of family law. While I have handled a number of intra-family adoptions over the years, my experience with newborn adoptions is more limited. That is a specialized area that only a few attorneys in my county practice on a regular basis. However, I am familiar with the statutory procedures and would be able to handle such matters if they came before me, given my familiarity with the system and law of Family Court in general.

The same is true of juvenile justice matters. While I have handled a number of cases over the years, I do not do so on a routine basis. Here again, I am familiar with the body of law insofar as juvenile justice is concerned and am aware of the procedures for handling these matters. My background in the overall system of Family Court and familiarity with the body of law and procedures as a whole will enable me to handle these matters without any issue.

15. What is your rating in Martindale-Hubbell?

I am not currently listed in Martindale-Hubbell. The last time I was listed was the 1990's. At that time, my rating was "BV." When I was with the law firm of Elrod, Jones, Leader and Benson, we made a collective decision to discontinue our listing and focus more on an Internet web page. We felt that the web page gave us more exposure, given the advancement in technology.

Retired judges/justices and judges/justices applying for reelection to their current position may omit Questions 16-21. If a candidate is seeking a judgeship different than his or her current position, Questions 16-21 should be answered based on experience prior to serving on the bench.

- 16. What was the frequency of your court appearances during the last five years?
 - (a) federal: Zero;
 - (b) state: I have averaged approximately two hundred Court appearances per year over the last five years in the Family Court.
- 17. What percentage of your practice involved civil, criminal, and domestic matters during the last five years?
 - (a) civil: Zero;
 - (b) criminal: Zero;
 - (c) domestic: 100%.
- 18. What percentage of your practice in trial court during the last five years involved matters that went to a jury, including those that settled prior to trial?
 - (a) jury: Zero;

(b) non-jury: 100% (Family Court).

Did you most often serve as sole counsel, chief counsel, or associate counsel in these matters?

I almost always serve as sole or chief counsel in these matters.

- 19. List five of the most significant litigated matters you have personally handled in either trial or appellate court or before a state or federal agency. Give citations if the cases were reported and describe why these matters were significant.
 - Croom v. Croom # 305 S.C. 158 (Ct. App. 1991). In this case, an ex-wife lived with a paramour and supported him, at least in part, with her alimony payments. Evidence was submitted at the Trial Court which indicated they decided not to marry so she could continue to receive her alimony. Had the wife lived with her paramour prior to the divorce, alimony would have been barred due to her misconduct. The case was significant because, under South Carolina law at that time, there was no provision to terminate alimony where an ex-spouse lived with a partner and elected not to remarry because it would terminate her alimony payments. The Court of Appeals decided the case on other grounds, as the parties had entered into an agreement which provided that alimony could be modified by a written agreement of the parties. However, the Court indicated that, if such an agreement had not been in place the decision may have been different. This case gave rise to passage of the alimony statute which provided cohabitation for a period of ninety (90) days (cumulative) shall result in termination of ones alimony. Section 20-3-150, South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976 as amended;
 - (b) Panas v. Panas #03-DR-46-165 (this case is currently under appeal). In this case, I represent the wife. The Husband was involved in a number of business enterprises most of which involved promoting "sweepstakes" contests. It was basically a scam and the various business enterprises were, and currently are, under federal investigation. The case involved issues relating to the divorce. The wife sought a divorce on the grounds of adultery, physical cruelty and habitual intoxication. Ultimately, she was awarded a divorce on all of those grounds. The issue of alimony was difficult because the husband did not comply with discovery and the issue of his income was decided on the basis of the lifestyle that the parties had enjoyed during the marriage, because there was little evidence to completely document his income. His financial declaration claimed income that barely met his support obligations under the Temporary Order and he continued to enjoy a lavish lifestyle of his own. The parties had two children. The wife was awarded \$4,000.00 per month in child support and \$7,500.00 in alimony. For purposes of equitable division, the husband did not fully disclose his assets. The wife was ultimately awarded \$2,062,872.00 for her equitable division of property. The Court had to

speculate to some degree as to the value of the marital estate due to the husband's failure to disclose assets. His failure to disclose assets was determined by an investigation of his financial records which listed ownership in various enterprises for which the records were not produced. It was an extremely complicated case which touched on issues of alimony, equitable division of property, grounds of divorce, etc. The husband is currently out of the country in an effort to avoid federal prosecution;

- (c) Lee v. Lee #91-DR-29-113. This case was tried in 1991. This was a case involving child custody. The case was tried before the Honorable Berry Mobley for an entire week. I represented the wife, along with my co-counsel, Debbie Mollycheck. The father was represented by Jim McLaren, along with his co-counsel, Brooks P. Goldsmith. The case involved issues of the misconduct and mental stability of the mother, as well as the father's inability to provide an appropriate environment for the children. The case involved psychologists, psychiatrists, and the like. The standard for determining custody is what is in the best interests of the child. That determination must be determined from almost every aspect of the children's lives, the parties' environment and their stability. This case touched on almost every aspect of what can constitute the best interests of the child insofar as the determination of custody is concerned. The case was not appealed;
- (d) Yousefian v. Yousefian #99-DR-12-481. This case was tried on May 8, 2001 (Chester County and June 8, 2001 (Fairfield County). This case involved grounds for divorce, alimony, equitable division of property, and attorney's fees. The wife sought a divorce from the husband on the grounds of physical cruelty. The husband was a doctor. He had recently sold his practice to a local hospital and was earning less money than when he previously operated his own clinic. At issue (for purposes of determining alimony) was his income versus his income potential. This case was significant because the amount of alimony the wife received depended on the husband's income and the question was whether or not he had voluntarily reduced his income by selling his medical practice and did that justify a reduction in the alimony. Also, since he had sold his practice, the value of the practice was not considered for purposes of equitable division. However, the proceeds that he received became an issue as to whether or not that was going to constitute equitable division of property or a substitute for his income, which had diminished. It became a tangled mess and the case was tried over a period of four days. It was extremely complicated insofar as a determination of the husband's income, the alimony entitlement, the equitable division of property, and the grounds for the divorce itself:

(e) <u>Jackson v. Jackson</u> #98-DR-46-581. The case was tried on March 7, 2000.

This was a long term marriage which included grounds for divorce, and an equitable division of property/transmutation of property. The wife sought a divorce from the husband on the grounds of adultery. After much effort it was ultimately discovered that the wife was guilty of adultery, which served as a bar to her receiving alimony. She was an alimony candidate due to the length of the marriage, the husband's fault, and the disparity in income. However, the central issue was the transmutation of property. The husband worked in a family business known as Jackson's Cafeteria. Over the years of the marriage, the husband's father gave him significant amounts of stock and ownership in the business enterprises. Transmutation was the central issue in the case, as to whether or not the gifts had been transmuted into marital property. Some of the property had been transmuted and some had After that had been determined, the division of property was impacted, as the contributions to the acquisitions of the properties was skewed to the extent that the husband had received gifts of property that were ultimately determined to be marital. On the eve of trial, the matter was settled with the husband receiving 60% of the estate and the wife 40% of the estate and some of the properties that were received from the husband's father were considered non-marital. It was a complicated property matter.

- 20. List up to five civil appeals you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision, and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter).
 - (a) <u>Croom v. Croom</u>, 305 S.C. 158 (Ct. App. 1991);
 - (b) <u>Terese Lynn Milczewski-Willis v. James Michael Willis</u> #08-DR-46-182 Supersedeas;
 - (c) <u>Darrin Mahan v. Shari Mahan</u> #07-DR-46-811 Supersedeas;
 - (d) Suzanne Jones v. Robert Jones 97–UP-424 (Ct. App. 1997).
- 21. List up to five criminal appeals that you have personally handled. Give the case name, the court, the date of decision and the citation if the case was reported. If you are a candidate for an appellate court judgeship (please attach one copy of briefs filed by you in each matter). None.
- 22. Have you ever held judicial office? Describe the jurisdiction of each of the courts and note any limitations on the jurisdiction of each court. None.
- 23. If the answer to question 22 is yes, describe or list five of your most significant orders or opinions and give the citations if they were reported. Also list citations to any appellate review of these orders or opinions. N/A.
- 24. Have you ever held public office other than judicial office? Also, state whether or not you have timely filed your report with the State Ethics Commission

- during the period you held public office. If not, were you ever subject to a penalty? N/A.
- 25. List all employment you had while serving as a judge (whether full-time or part-time, contractual or at will, consulting or otherwise) other than elected judicial office. Specify your dates of employment, employer, major job responsibilities, and supervisor. N/A.
- 26. Have you ever been an unsuccessful candidate for elective, judicial, or other public office? No.
- 27. Have you ever been engaged in any occupation, business, or profession other than the practice of law, teaching of law, or holding judicial or other public office? No.
- 28. Are you now an officer or director or involved in the management of any business enterprise? No.
- 29. A complete, current financial net worth statement was provided to the Commission.
- 30. Describe any financial arrangements or business relationships you have, or have had in the past, that could constitute or result in a possible conflict of interest in the position you seek. Explain how you would resolve any potential conflict of interest. None.
- 31. Have you ever been arrested, charged, or held by federal, state, or other law enforcement authorities for violation or for suspicion of violation of any federal law or regulation, state law or regulation, or county or municipal law, regulation, or ordinance, or any other law, including another country's law?
 - Yes. I was charged with DWI on Thanksgiving Day in 1995. Disposition: Found not guilty.
- 32. Have you, to your knowledge, ever been under federal, state, or local investigation for possible violation of a criminal statute? No.
- 33. Has a tax lien or other collection procedure ever been instituted against you by federal, state, or local authorities? Have you ever defaulted on a student loan? Have you ever filed for bankruptcy? No.
- 34. Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law? No.
- 36. Are you now or have you ever been employed as a "lobbyist," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(13), or have you acted in the capacity of a "lobbyist's principal," as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(14)? No.
- 37. Since filing with the Commission your letter of intent to run for judicial office, have you accepted lodging, transportation, entertainment, food, meals, beverages, money, or any other thing of value as defined by S.C. Code § 2-17-10(1) from a lobbyist or lobbyist's principal? No.
- 38. S.C. Code § 8-13-700 provides, in part, that "[n]o public official, public member, or public employee may knowingly use his official office, membership, or employment to obtain an economic interest for himself, a member of his immediate family, an individual with whom he is associated, or a business with which he is associated." Please detail any knowledge you

- have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. No.
- 39. S.C. Code § 8-13-765 provides, in part, that "[n]o person may use government personnel, equipment, materials, or an office building in an election campaign." Please detail any knowledge you have of any formal charges or informal allegations against you or any other candidate for violations of these provisions. No.
- 40. Itemize (by amount, type, and date) all expenditures, other than those for travel and room and board, made by you, or on your behalf in furtherance of your candidacy for the position you seek. None.
- 41. List the amount and recipient of all contributions made by you or on your behalf to members of the General Assembly since the announcement of your intent to seek election to a judgeship. None.
- 42. Have you directly or indirectly requested the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? Have you received the assurance of any public official or public employee that they will seek the pledge of any member of the General Assembly as to your election for the position for which you are being screened? No.
- 43. Have you requested a friend or colleague to contact members of the General Assembly on your behalf? Are you aware of any friends or colleagues contacting members of the General Assembly on your behalf? No.
- 44. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf solicited or collected funds to aid in the promotion of your candidacy? No.
- 45. Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate? No.
- 46. List all bar associations and professional organizations of which you are a member and give the titles and dates of any offices you have held in such groups.
 - (a) South Carolina Bar Association 1983 Present;
 - (b) York County Bar Association President, 1988.
- 47. List all civic, charitable, educational, social, and fraternal organizations of which you are or have been a member during the past five years and include any offices held in such a group, any professional honors, awards, or other forms of recognition received and not listed elsewhere. None.
- 48. Provide any other information that may reflect positively or negatively on your candidacy, or which you believe should be disclosed in connection with consideration of you for nomination for the position you seek.

My parents were divorced when I was ten years of age. It occurred at a time when divorce was not a common occurrence in South Carolina. I know what it is like to be a child in a divorce situation and what type of impact a bitter, embroiled domestic case can have on a young child. I am keenly aware of what divorce can do to a child.

I served on the Board of Directors for The Children's Attention Home in York County for six to eight years. The Children's Attention Home is a facility where children who are taken into emergency protective custody are placed until such time as a disposition can be made for their placement by the Courts. Frequently, they go from the Attention Home into foster care or to another family member's home. I was Chairman of the Board for a considerable period of my tenure. I was in the home a number of days per week, as I was involved in the day to day activities of the facility. I saw the children come and go on a daily basis. Being in the courtroom and dealing with the outcome of the case is one thing, but seeing the children eye to eye is another. I know the pain that a child feels when they come into such a facility. I have seen the fear in their eyes; it will break your heart.

I have served as a foster parent. I had two young children in my home – at separate times. I dealt with them, as well as their families, as we worked together to try to provide those children with an opportunity for a better life. There were good times and there were bad. I grew to love them and still keep up with them – one more than the other. One is now married with two children, is a tax payer and a productive member of our society. I take some measure of pride in his accomplishments.

I believe my life experiences, as well as my extensive experience in handling matters in the Family Court makes me well suited to hear cases that would come before me.

49. References:

- (a) Paula C. Oates
 Wealth Management Banker
 Vice President
 Bank of America
 222 E. Main Street
 Rock Hill, SC 29730
 704-386-0990
- (b) Luther C. Elrod, III Elrod Pope Law Firm P.O. Box 11091 Rock Hill, SC 29731 803-324-7574
- (c) Richard Reese 750 8th St. Dr. NW Hickory, NC 28601
- (d) Charles B. Ridley, Jr.
 Of Counsel
 Elrod Pope Law Firm
 P.O. Box 11091
 Rock Hill, SC 29731
 803-324-7574

(f) Desa Ballard Attorney at Law 226 State Street Columbia, SC 29169 803-796-9299

YOUR SIGNATURE WILL BE HELD TO CONSTITUTE A WAIVER OF THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF ANY PROCEEDING BEFORE A GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE OR ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING YOUR CREDIT.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY ANSWERS ARE TRUE AND COMPLETE TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE.

Signature: Tony M. Jones

Date:

8/11/09

TONY M. JONES

ATTORNEY AT LAW 220 East Black Street P.O. Box 994 Rock Hill, South Carolina, 29731

Certified Family Mediator E-Mail: tonyjones@comporium.net

Telephone: 803-328-8044 Facsimile: 803-328-8190

October 22, 2009

Jane Shuler Judicial Merit Selection Commission Post Office Box 142 Columbia, South Carolina 29202

RE: Tony M. Jones

Applicant for Sixteenth Circuit Family Court Judgeship Seat #2

Dear Jane:

Please allow this letter to serve as an amendment to my Personal Data Questionnaire which was previously submitted in August of 2009.

The two questions to be amended are numbers 34 and 45. Question number 34 provides,

34. "Have you ever been sued, either personally or professionally, that is, have you ever been named as defendant or respondent in any court of law? If so, give details, including but not limited to dates, and resolution."

My answer to the question in my original application was: No.

I would like to amend that answer by providing the following.

- 34. Yes. There have been four instances.
 - 1. <u>Bank One, National Association, as Trustee versus</u>
 <u>Joseph Daniel Smith; Kasandra Smith; Sherman</u>
 <u>Acquistion, II, LP; Washington Mutual Finance n/k/a</u>
 <u>CitiFinancial</u>

This action was a foreclosure brought by the Plaintiff against the Defendants. The judgment of foreclosure and sale was entered into on February 15, 2006.

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Pursuant to the terms of the Judgment and Order, the property was sold at public auction on March 06, 2006, and a successful bidder at the sale was the Plaintiff, first for the amount of \$115,600.00.

Subsequent to the foreclosure sale, it was discovered that I held a lien on the subject property by virtue of a judgment given by Joseph Daniel Smith dated July 05, 2005. I entered into a consent order dated August 12, 2006, wherein I consented to be bound as a party to the action and the Plaintiff was allowed to amend his caption to reflect same. The consent order further provided that I was to be notified of any surplus funds from the foreclosure. There were no surplus funds. The foreclosure went forward and my lien was eliminated.

2. <u>CitiFinancial Mortgage Company, Inc. f/k/a Associates</u>
<u>Home Equity Services, Inc. versus Teresa D. Fisher</u>
<u>Crockett; First Greensboro Home Equity, Inc.; Tony M.</u>
<u>Jones; George A. Hook, III, DDS; William S. Holler</u>

This was a foreclosure action which was commenced in 2002 against the Defendants. Prior to this foreclosure action being commenced, Laurence N. Fisher conveyed the property in question to his daughter, the Defendant Teresa Fisher. I had a judgment against a Larry Fisher (actually Larry N. Fisher's son) for past due attorney's fees. The Complaint filed by the Plaintiff alleged that they had insufficient information to determine whether or not the Larry Fisher named in my judgment was the same as the Laurence N. Fisher who owned the subject property and deeded it to this daughter Teresa D. Fisher Crockett. I notified the Court that my judgment was against Laurence Fisher's son. My lien was ultimately extinguished by virtue of Laurence Fisher's son filing bankruptcy.

3. <u>Sears Mortgage Corporation versus Larry Alfred Buddin; Ginny F. Riggins Buddin; American General Finance, Inc.; Forrest C. Wilkerson; Tony M. Jones; and Donna Buddin</u>

Jane Shuler October 22, 2009 Page 3

This action was filed on October 21, 1991, by the Plaintiff as a foreclosure action against certain property located in York County. I was made a party by virtue of a Family Court judgment stemming from a Family Court matter known as 1988-DR-46-332 wherein I represent the Defendant Donna Buddin. That Decree provided that Larry Buddin was responsible for all of attorney's fees and costs included in the divorce action. In the suit, I was directed to set up any such lien or claim that I had on the property if any. My lien had been paid. I had inadvertently failed to file a Satisfaction of Judgment.

4. Home Federal Savings Bank of South Carolina versus Clayton G. English; Caroline U. English; David Hill; Tony Jones, Esquire; Gene's Village Rental and Sales, Inc.; Pinetree Investment Corporation; South Carolina Tax Commission; Rock Hill Concrete, Inc.; Deanna L. Coverman; Sutton Ready Mix Concrete; and City Builders Services, Inc.

This action commenced by the filing of a Summons and Complaint on May 17, 1990. It was a foreclosure action against certain property owned by Mr. and Mrs. English in York County, South Carolina. I represented Caroline English in her divorce action. I was made a party to the action for the reason that the records in the office of the Clerk of Court of York County reflected a Decree of Divorce which had been filed on May 03, 1988, which provided that I was to be paid \$750.00 in attorney's fees. The Complaint further alleged that my lien was junior and subsequent to the lien of the Plaintiff's mortgage. I was dismissed as a party.

Question number 45 provides,

45. "Have you or has anyone acting on your behalf contacted members of the Judicial Merit Selection Commission about your candidacy or intention to become a candidate."

My answer to the question in my original application was: No.

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I would like to amend that answer by providing the following.

45. I inadvertently contacted Representative Greg Delleney some time back to ask a procedural question about this process. He reminded me that he was not allowed to discuss any matters relating to my candidacy and referred me to Jane Shuler. I contacted Jane Shuler with my inquiry. She answered my question. I reported my contact with Representative Delleney to her. She admonished/reminded me that Representative Delleney was on the Screening Committee and that I was not to contact him whatsoever about any questions I may have. My intention was not to circumvent the rules and I apologize for this oversight on my part.

Please add this amendment to my Personal Data Questionnaire. Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Very truly yours,

Tony M. Jones

TMJ/dsg

cc: Andy Fiffick (via email)